

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting  
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	379015
<015>	Study Area Name	THREE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Judy Christiansen
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	4028181322 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	jchristiansen@consortiaconsulting.com
	Form Type	54.313 and 54.422

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No

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**(300) Unfulfilled Service Request  
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481  
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&lt;300&gt; Unfulfilled service request (voice)

0

&lt;310&gt; Detail on attempts (voice)

Name of Attached Document

&lt;320&gt; Unfulfilled service request (broadband)

&lt;330&gt; Detail on attempts (broadband)

Name of Attached Document

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<400>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize. Offered only fixed voice	
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice	0 . 0
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice	
<430>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report end-user customer complaints (zero or greater) for broadband service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.	
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband	
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband	

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<500>	Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules	Yes
379015neServiceQuality510.pdf		
<510>	Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	
<515>	Certify compliance with applicable minimum service standards	

<b>(600) Functionality in Emergency Situations</b>		FCC Form 481
<b>Data Collection Form</b>		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jchristiansen@consortiaconsulting.com
<600>	Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes
<610>	Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	379015neEmergencyCertification610.pdf

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<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	18.0

-- See attached worksheet

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[illegible]



**(800) Operating Companies  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

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<810>	Reporting Carrier	Three River Communications, LLC
<811>	Holding Company	Not Applicable
<812>	Operating Company	NA

[illegible]

**(900) Tribal Lands Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481  
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&lt;900&gt; Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N) No

&lt;910&gt; Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

&lt;920&gt; Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

Select Yes or No or Not Applicable

**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

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<1000>      Voice services rate comparability certification      Yes

<1010>      Attach detailed description for voice services rate  
comparability compliance

---

Name of Attached Document

<1020>      Broadband comparability certification

<1030>      Attach detailed description for broadband  
comparability compliance

---

Name of Attached Document

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

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&lt;1100&gt; Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

Yes

&lt;1130&gt; Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

**(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers**  
**Lifeline**  
**Data Collection Form**

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379015nelifeline1210.pdf

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- |        |   |                                     |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <1221> | Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1222> | Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1223> | Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation**

FCC Form 481

**Data Collection Form**

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

*Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers*

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Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

**Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting**

- <2011> 3rd Year Certification 47 CFR §54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 2017 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support.
- <2022> Recipient certifies, representing year three after filing a notice of acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the locations in question are not receiving support under the Broadband Initiatives Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at least 4 Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2023> The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the total amount of capital funding expended in the previous year in meeting Connect America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied by a list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2024A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2024B> Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent in year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2025A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2025B> Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 2 for year three) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-73, paragraph 35 (May 22, 2013).
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)

Name of Attached Document Listing  
Required Information

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Required Information

**(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation**

FCC Form 481

**Data Collection Form**

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

*Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers*

July 2013

**Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}**

&lt;2016&gt; Certification support used to build broadband

**Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}**

&lt;2017A&gt; Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

&lt;2017C&gt; Total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2016.

&lt;2018&gt; Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(A)

Name of Attached Document Listing  
Required Information

&lt;2019&gt; Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(C)

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Select from the drop down menu or check the boxes below to note compliance with 54.313(f)(1). Privately held carriers must ensure compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3009)	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)	
(3010A)	Certification of Public Interest Obligations {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}	
(3010B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
(3012A)	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}	
(3012B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
(3013)	Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}	(Yes/No) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
(3014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	(Yes/No) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
	Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:	
(3015)	Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3016)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?	(Yes/No) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
	If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:	
(3019)	Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3020)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3021)	Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:	
(3022)	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3023)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3025)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information



**(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)**

FCC Form 481

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**Financial Data Summary**

(3027) Revenue

(3028) Operating Expenses

(3029) Net Income

(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)

(3031) Total Assets

(3032) Total Debt

(3033) Total Equity

(3034) Dividends

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**4005 Rural Broadband Experiment**

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

**Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)**

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission’s public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

**4001.** Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

**Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)**

**4003a.** RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

**If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.**

**4003b.** Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

**Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 80)**

**4004a.** Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

**4004b.** Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband speed and data usage allowances available in the relevant geographic area.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

**Certification - Reporting Carrier  
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481  
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**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:**

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

<b>Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:**

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>Consortia Consulting</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	Consortia Consulting
Name of Reporting Carrier:	THREE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/09/2017
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	Neil Classen
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	General Manager
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	4025692666 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	379015 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/03/2017
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:**

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	THREE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
Name of Authorized Agent Firm:	Consortia Consulting
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/09/2017
Name of Authorized Agent Employee:	Judy Christiansen
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent	Consultant
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	4028181322 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	379015 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/03/2017
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

## Attachments

<b>(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data</b> <b>Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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July 2013

<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	18.0

[illegible]

## **Three River Communications/LLC**

### **Certification of Compliance with Applicable Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules for Voice and Broadband Services**

Service quality standards and consumer protection rules for broadband are not as defined as the rules for voice services. The Company complies with any service quality standards and consumer protection rules for broadband that are out there now and any that will be defined in the future.

#### Service Quality Standards

For voice services, the Company:

- Provides voice grade access to the public switched network.
- Provides flat rated local exchange service with no additional charge to end users.
- Provides access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911.
- Provides toll blocking and toll limitation services.

For voice and broadband services, the Company:

- Advertises the availability of its services and the charges using media of general distribution and/or on its website.
- Maintains a business office providing customers with access to a customer service representative either in person or via a local telephone call or toll-free telephone number during business hours.
- Directs after hour calls to the Company's voice mail.
- Directs trouble reports to the on-call technician.
- Tracks all service orders to ensure they are completed in a timely manner.
- Measures its service connection and service interruption performance on a regular basis.
- Trains employees to:
  - Answer all incoming calls promptly.
  - Respond to all inquiries for information promptly and courteously.
  - Investigate thoroughly all customer complaints and handle appropriately according to the Company's guidelines for resolution of customer complaints.
  - Be knowledgeable about products and service offerings so they can assist the customer with selecting the best service option.
- Has a process for periodic inspection, testing and preventive maintenance of its equipment to permit the rendering of safe, adequate and continuous service at all times.
- Meets or exceeds the standards established by the state commission and provides any reports required in accordance with the state commission's rules.

#### Consumer Protection Rules

The Company has established operating procedures designed to facilitate compliance with applicable consumer protection rules which include compliance with the Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) rules. The operating procedures include:

- Appointment of a compliance officer.
- A manual detailing the specific procedures for protecting consumer information.
- Employee training on an annual basis.
- A disciplinary process for improper use of consumer information.

If complaints are filed with the Company regarding consumer protection rules, the complaint is immediately investigated, the matter tracked and any corrective action noted. This process ensures that problems are addressed and corrections made.

**Three River Communications, LLC**  
Ability to Remain Functional in Emergency Situations  
FCC Form 481 – Line 610

1. Three River Communications (TRC) has been providing high quality service in Nebraska since 2004. This includes operating in adverse conditions including blizzards, ice storms, thunderstorms, tornadoes and during prolonged power outages. TRC's management team, plant supervisors, plant technicians and customer service representatives have the training, experience and equipment necessary to respond to, manage and operate in emergency situations.
2. Three River Communications follows applicable Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Telecommunications program practices and guidelines including the Telecommunications Engineering and Construction Manual (TE&CM) and other industry standards available to small telecommunications carriers. Three River Communications also meets the requirements of the Nebraska Public Service Commission (NPSC) as applied to local exchange service.

3. Back-Up Power

3.1. Central Office

- 3.1.1. Three River Communications maintains storage batteries designed to provide a minimum reserve capacity consistent with RUS TE&CM 1751E-302, Power Requirements for Digital Central Office Equipment. 1751E-302 paragraph 2.3.4 recommends a minimum reserve capacity of 8 hours, or 3 hours if the central office is equipped with an emergency standby generator. This is consistent with Title 291, NPSC Telecommunications Rules and Regulations, Chapter 5, paragraph 002.05 Emergency Operations and Power.
- 3.1.2. Three River Communications maintains a dedicated standby generator fueled with a 1000 gallon reserve supply of liquid propane gas (LPG). The standby unit is equipped with an automatic transfer switch so that in the event of an interruption of the commercial electric power lasting more than a few minutes, the standby generator starts automatically and provides electrical power to the central office equipment, air conditioning and building lighting. The automatic transfer switch also exercises the standby unit periodically and an alarm indication is sent if the standby generator does not start so that telecommunications personnel can perform proactive maintenance.



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3.2. Remote Equipment Cabinets

3.2.1. Where electronic equipment in cabinets located remotely from the central office, is used to provide service, the cabinets are equipped with batteries designed to operate for a minimum of eight hours without commercial electrical power. In addition, TRC maintains portable AC standby generators for use in the event of prolonged commercial power interruptions and the cabinets are equipped with external receptacles to facilitate connection to portable generators.

4. Rerouting Traffic around Damaged Facilities

4.1. In the event of damage to cable facilities owned by Three River Communications, our maintenance personnel would restore service using emergency splice kits kept on hand for these types of service disruptions. If the damaged facilities are not owned by Three River Communications we would work with the carrier directly affected to identify the source of disruption and the estimated amount of time before service is restored.

4.2. In the event of an extended outage, contact would be made with another service provider which has a separate, physical cable connection with TRC to provision temporary alternate routes supporting originating and terminating toll calls. Emphasis would first be placed on establishing connections to nearby PSAP, law-enforcement and emergency services.

5. Managing Traffic Spikes

5.1. Three River Communications meets Title 291, NPSC Telecommunications Rules and Regulations, Chapter 5, paragraph 002.12 Dial Service Objectives for sufficient central office capacity and equipment during the "...average busy hour-busy season..."

5.2. Three River Communications follows applicable RUS practices 522 and 322 when specifying, administering, and assigning facilities within its control (as opposed to facilities ordered by connecting interexchange carriers).

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- 5.3. The Ainsworth central office switch is a Genband DMS-10 operating at the 602.20 software release. The Ainsworth DMS-10 is equipped with 875 access lines. The DMS-10 is designed to support up to 12,000 access lines by adding line and trunk interface equipment and network equipment only. In its current configuration the Ainsworth DMS-10 has additional capacity over and above the minimums specified to meet NPSC and RUS guidelines.
- 5.4. When traffic volumes greatly exceed specified criteria and additional capacity of the switch or connecting facilities, the DMS-10 continues to process calls but with potentially longer waiting times for dial tone, higher post-dialing delays and a higher probability of callers receiving all trunks busy indications (fast busy) and having to redial calls. Depending on the magnitude and duration of extreme peak demand, TRC would examine alternatives such as provisioning additional facilities and work with connecting carriers to expedite additional capacity.

## **Three River Communications, LLC**

### **Lifeline Terms and Conditions**

Three River Communications, LLC (“Three River”) offers Lifeline program-supported service to qualified low-income residential consumers. The federal Lifeline and The Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program (NTAP) assistance reduces the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service by \$3.50. The federal Lifeline program reduces costs of telephone or broadband internet access service (BIAS) by \$9.25. Eligible consumers can receive up to \$12.75 per month in discounts. In addition, the Federal Universal Service Charge is not assessed to consumers participating in the programs. Toll Blocking prevents the placement of all long distance calls for which a subscriber would be charged. Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost. In addition, by choosing this option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission administers NTAP and the federal Lifeline program.

### **NTAP Eligibility Information**

#### **Program Based Eligibility**

To qualify for services, subscribers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber’s dependents, or the subscriber’s household must receive benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Medicaid
- Children’s Health Insurance Program/Kids Connection (SAM, MAC or EMAC)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); (formerly the Food Stamps Program)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran’s Pension and Survivor Benefit

To receive an application, contact your local *Health and Human Services* agency caseworker or the *Nebraska Public Service Commission*, 1200 N Street, Suite 300, PO Box 94927, Lincoln, NE 68508-4927, Phone: 402-471-3101, Toll Free: 1-800-526-0017 or [http://www.psc.nebraska.gov/ntips/ntips\\_ntap.html](http://www.psc.nebraska.gov/ntips/ntips_ntap.html)

Applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means.

Acceptable documentation of program-based eligibility includes: current or prior year’s statement of benefits from a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program; notice letter of participation in a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program; program participation documents; or another official document evidencing the consumer’s participation in a qualifying state, federal or Tribal program.

#### **Income Based Eligibility**

In addition, consumers are eligible if their household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

2017 Federal Poverty Guidelines – 135%

Household Size	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$16,281	\$20,331	\$18,711
2	\$21,924	\$27,392	\$25,205
3	\$27,567	\$34,452	\$31,698
4	\$32,853	\$41,513	\$38,192
5	\$34,496	\$48,573	\$44,685
6	\$44,496	\$55,634	\$51,179
7	\$50,139	\$62,694	\$57,672
8	\$55,782	\$69,755	\$64,166
For each additional person, add	\$5,643	\$7,061	\$6,494

Acceptable documentation of income eligibility includes: prior year's state, federal or Tribal tax return; current income statement from an employer or paycheck stub; social security statement of benefits; Veterans Administration statement of benefits; retirement/pension statement of benefits; unemployment/workmen's compensation statement of benefits; federal or Tribal notice of letter participating in General Assistance; or a divorce decree or child support award or other official document containing income information.

### **Tribal Eligibility**

A subscriber who lives on Tribal lands and is an eligible resident of Tribal lands is eligible for Tribal Lifeline service or Tribal Link Up if the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household participates in any of the above-listed qualifying assistance programs or one of the following Tribal-specific federal assistance programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance; Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met); or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Tribal subscribers may also qualify if the household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Tribal subscribers should contact Three River for additional information on Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up.

### **Program Service**

Three River's Voice NTAP and federal Lifeline Program services include unlimited local minutes-of-use within the toll-free calling area. Three River's Voice NTAP and federal Lifeline Program does not include any free minutes-of-use for toll. Toll is billed at the standard toll rate depending on which interexchange carrier the consumer subscribes to for toll service. As part of the service, Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost.

BIAS minimum speed and usage allowance standards are required for the service to qualify.

Lifeline recipients may transfer the Lifeline benefit to a new company once every sixty days for telephone service and once every 12 months for BIAS.

### **Rates**

Subscribers may receive the NTAP and federal Lifeline Program credit on any type or grade of local service, including bundled services that are normally offered by Three River. The federal Lifeline program credit is also available on BIAS. Advertised rates do not include any applicable taxes or surcharges.

### **Recertification of NTAP Eligibility**

Service recipients are required to recertify their eligibility annually. Failure to properly recertify a recipient's continued eligibility for service will result in termination of the service recipient's monthly service discount and de-enrollment from service.

### **Additional NTAP Program Information**

NTAP and the federal Lifeline program are limited to one benefit per household. A household is defined as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. NTAP and the federal Lifeline Program are government benefit programs, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.